Contact: Sgt. Chris Benavides Date: 05-09-09 Release No. 09-061

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING

A preliminary investigation pertaining to an officer involved shooting reveals the following: On May 8, 2009, at approximately 11:46pm, San Antonio Police Vice Detectives David Ellis, a 24-year veteran, and Det. John Saenz, a 20-year veteran, were in plain clothes and conducting a vice inspection at 1502 W. Hildebrand (Hildebrand Grocery). As the detectives were conducting the inspection and standing behind the service counter, they saw two Hispanic males enter the store with masks and armed with handguns. At that time, the detectives and robbery suspects began to exchange gunfire. Numerous rounds were fired by both the suspects and detectives. During the exchange of gunfire, a male customer was struck by at least one round. At this point in the investigation, it's unknown whose gunfire struck the customer. The suspects ultimately fled the store and reportedly entered a waiting suspect vehicle which fled e/b on W. Hildebrand.

The detectives were not injured by the gunfire and were able to report the incident to responding officers. The injured customer was transported to University Hospital in serious condition. It's currently unknown whether any of the suspects were hit by the detective's gunfire. Currently, the suspects remain at large.

The San Antonio Police Department's shooting Team is handling the investigation and will submit their findings to Police Chief William P. McManus and the Bexar County District Attorney's Office. As per policy, Detectives Ellis and Saenz will be placed on administrative duty while the investigation continues.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE